

POVERTY GEOGRAPHIC AREA

Setting

The area is located at the eastern end of the U.S. Highway 14 and Flowers Road corridors. The area is a mix of foothills shrub-grass communities, juniper-ponderosa pine communities on south slopes, and Douglas-fir on north slopes. Remnants of old-growth ponderosa pine occur in the area. Elevations vary from 5,800 to 10,300 feet. Potential greenback cutthroat trout habitat exists.

Vegetation management has occurred in the area for the past 100 years beginning with harvesting for materials for homesteads and ranches. Recent harvesting has been primarily in the form of small sales. Spruce budworm affected much of the Douglas-fir in the 1980s. Fuel loadings are high due to the subsequent mortality in those areas. Small-scale nonlethal understory and mixed/variable-severity wildland fires occur frequently in the ponderosa pine type. Stand-replacement-severity wildland fires have occurred in the lodgepole pine type affecting areas in excess of 1000 acres. There are extensive areas of small-sized lodgepole pine due to past fires. Early and late structural stages are underrepresented in all tree-cover types. The aspen-cover type is being encroached on by conifers as the stands increase in age. The area includes a special-interest area for the protection of a rare botanical species. noxious weed infestations are increasing in the area. There are five livestock grazing allotments, two of them vacant. Recreational use (both motorized and nonmotorized) is high during the summer and fall seasons. Recreation and grazing conflicts are occurring in the Young's Gulch area. Approximately 77 percent of the area is in other ownership. Primary and second-home development on private lands is increasing

The current transportation system's primary access routes are Rist Canyon Road (Larimer County Road 52E) and Stove Prairie Road (Larimer County Road 27). Most secondary roads and user-created ways have been closed.

Goals and Desired Conditions

Protect rare plant population in Management Area 3.1.

Cooperate with other agencies to determine presence, status, and genetic purity of greenback cutthroat trout in area streams. Manage activities to protect greenback cutthroat trout habitat and populations and enhance recovery efforts.

The wildland fire management strategy is direct control except for the West White Pine area where it is perimeter control. Prescribed fire (including nonlethal understory or mixed/variable fires) may be implemented in the ponderosa pine type and lodgepole pine types in conjunction with vegetation manipulation to reduce fuel loading, improve wildlife habitat or assist recruitment of old-growth structural stages.

Decrease noxious weed infestations and limit new infestations.

Manage rangelands toward desired plant communities and management objectives as outlined in management plans for specific allotments.

Close the Young's Gulch and Hill Gulch grazing allotments to eliminate recreation and grazing conflicts.

Prohibit camping along roads where use impacts soil, water and aesthetic resources.

Evaluate road and trail impacts to riparian areas and watershed conditions. Manage and restore road networks to reduce erosion and prevent deterioration of watershed conditions. Implement seasonal road closures to provide for wildlife habitat and resource protection during critical periods of the year. Consider closure of roads and trails that cause resource damage, or are in excess of National Forest System roads.

Manage recreational uses, grazing, mining, mined lands, and timber harvest to reduce erosion or deterioration of riparian areas and watershed conditions.

Management Area 3.5

Emphasize wildlife habitat. Provide for motorized recreation on existing system roads and trails.

Manage vegetation to achieve a mix needed for wildlife habitat and to reduce fuel loading. Timber harvest is probable in the West and East White Pine areas to increase habitat potential, complete previous silvicultural treatments and control fuel buildups. Manage lodgepole pine and spruce-fir to reduce fuels, create openings and maintain thermal and hiding cover. Manage ponderosa pine to emulate conditions representative of a nonlethal understory fire regime and to emphasize old-growth recruitment and retention. Create conditions that will make insect and disease epidemics unlikely.

Present use on existing motorized and nonmotorized travel system is adequate.

Use temporary access roads, as needed, to achieve fuels reduction and to improve wildlife habitat; close roads once the activity is completed.

Management Area 4.3 and 4.4

Provide for motorized and nonmotorized uses as currently designated on existing roads and trails.

Manage vegetation to achieve a mix needed to rehabilitate landscape elements, provide for public safety and reduce fuel loading. Limited timber harvest is tentatively suitable and not available. Manage lodgepole pine and spruce-fir to reduce fuels, create openings and maintain thermal and hiding cover. Manage ponderosa pine to emulate conditions representative of a nonlethal understory fire regime and to emphasize old-growth recruitment and retention. Accept insect and

disease losses unless they pose a threat to other ownership or cause unacceptable resource damage.

Travel Management Strategy, Poverty Geographic Area

Management Area	Mode	Existing System	Convert Ways	New Rds/Trls	Extent of Additions	Extent of Obliterations
1.2	4WD	N	N	N	N	N
	MTR	N	N	N	N	N
	WMT	N	N	N	N	N
	WNM	N	N	N	N	N
	NMT	N	N	N	N	N
3.1	4WD	N	N	N	N	L
	MTR	N	N	N	N	N
	WMT	N	N	N	N	N
	WNM	N	N	N	N	N
	NMT	N	N	N	N	N
3.3	4WD	Y	N	N	N	M
	MTR	N	N	N	N	N
	WMT	N	N	N	N	N
	WNM	N	N	N	N	N
	NMT	Y	N	N	N	M
3.5	4WD	Y	N	N	N	L
	MTR	N	N	N	N	N
	WMT	N	N	N	N	N
	WNM	N	N	N	N	N
	NMT	Y	N	N	N	L
4.3	4WD	N	N	N	N	N
	MTR	N	N	N	N	N
	WMT	N	N	N	N	N
	WNM	N	N	N	N	N
	NMT	Y	N	N	N	N
4.4	4WD	N	N	N	N	N
	MTR	N	N	N	N	N
	WMT	N	N	N	N	N
	WNM	Y	N	N	N	N
	NMT	Y	N	N	N	N